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**MEMORANDUM FOR: Special Assistant for DDS&T**

**SUBJECT: Proposed Hainan Island Mission**

1. Taking into account the Board's injunction with regard to surveillance of South China and the fact that there has been no coverage of Hainan Island [redacted] it is my view that the mission proposed for 24 August should be run. It cannot be said, however, that we have from other sources any indication of new or currently ominous activity. [redacted] advises me that the NIC memorandum to the Watch Committee on indications does not list any Hainan Island targets for surveillance as relevant to the indications problem. It is, furthermore, not even listed there for any collection of interest to the Watch Committee. I have asked [redacted] to check promptly with Mr. Denny to see whether this may be an oversight.

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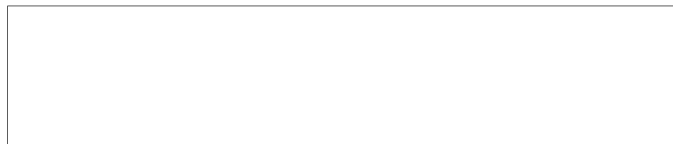
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2. I have advised [redacted] of your report of the pilot's observation on the last South China mission of four MIGs at or above altitude which serves to caution us to not take lightly these ventures. I have requested the PWG to report by 2 pm its examination of the need for Hainan coverage at this time in the light of all of the foregoing.

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James Q. Reber  
Chairman

Committee on Overhead Reconnaissance

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